



# **Computational Learning Theory**

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# Outline

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- Sample Complexity
- Errors of a Hypothesis
- PAC Learnability
- Exhausting the Version Space
- Mistake Bounds

# Computational Learning Theory

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- What general laws constrain inductive learning?
- We seek theory to relate:
  - Complexity of hypothesis space considered by the learner
  - Accuracy to which target concept is approximated
  - Probability that the learner outputs a successful hypothesis
  - Manner in which training examples presented to the learner
- Goals:
  - **Sample complexity**: How many training examples are needed for successful learning?
  - **Computational complexity**: How much computational effort is needed for a learner to converge to a successful hypothesis?
  - **Mistake bound**: How many examples will the learner misclassify before the convergence?

# Q1:

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- Which of the following statements below is not the goal that computational learning theory want to achieve?
- (A) Learning successfully in polynomial time.
- (B) Finding out the upper and lower bound of error.
- (C) Deriving sample complexity.
- (D) All of the above.

# Sample Complexity

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- How many training examples are sufficient to learn the target concept?
- 3 settings:
  - ① Learner proposes instances, as queries to teacher:  
Learner proposes instance  $x$ , teacher provides  $c(x)$ .
  - ② Teacher provides training examples:  
Teacher provides sequence of examples of form  $\langle x, c(x) \rangle$ .
  - ③ Some random process (e.g., nature) proposes instances:  
Instance  $x$  generated randomly, teacher provides  $c(x)$ .

Cross-validation

# Sample Complexity: Setting 1

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- Learner proposes instance  $x$ , teacher provides  $c(x)$  (assume  $c$  is in learner's hypothesis space  $H$ )
- Optimal query strategy: play 20 questions
  - Pick instance  $x$  such that half of hypotheses in  $VS$  classify  $x$  positive, half classify  $x$  negative.
  - When this is possible, need  $\lceil \log_2 |H| \rceil$  queries to learn  $c$ .  $\Rightarrow$  Best case
  - When not possible, need even more.

# Sample Complexity: Setting 2

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- Teacher (who knows  $c$ ) provides training examples (assume  $c$  is in learner's hypothesis space  $H$ )
- Optimal teaching strategy: depends on  $H$  used by learner.
- Consider the case where  $H$  is conjunctions of up to  $n$  boolean literals (positive or negative).
  - e.g.,  $(AirTemp = Warm) \wedge (Wind = Strong)$ , where  $AirTemp, Wind, \dots$  each has 2 possible values.
  - if  $n$  possible boolean attributes in  $H$ ,  $(n + 1)$  examples suffice.
  - Why?

The size of hypothesis space ( $|H|$ ) :  $3^n$  (Attribute is +, -, or ?)

The number of examples:  $\log(|H|) \Rightarrow$  Worst case

# 如果concept有don 't care? (1/2)

	A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>3</sub>	.....	A <sub>n</sub>
Concept:	+	-	?	?...	?

要學會這樣的concept，需要提供幾個example??

Step1: 學don' t care

A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>3</sub>	.....	A <sub>n</sub>	Class
+	-	+	+...	+	=> +
+	-	-	-...	-	=> +

需要兩個  
example  
來學所有  
的don't  
care

同時包含+ & -，在conjunction做不到  
=> 所以就會是don 't care

Step2: 學A<sub>1</sub>只能是+ & A<sub>2</sub>只能是-

+	+	+	+...	+	=> -
-	-	+	+...	+	=> -



# 如果concept有don't care? (2/2)

$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	.....	$A_n$
+	-	?	?...	?

要學會這樣的concept，需要提供幾個example??

Step1: 學don't care

$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	.....	$A_n$	Class
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

$\begin{matrix} + & - & + & +\dots & + & \Rightarrow + \end{matrix}$

$\begin{matrix} + & - & - & -\dots & - & \Rightarrow + \end{matrix}$

$n-k$

花兩個example來學k個don't care

Step2: 學 $A_1$ 只能是+ &  $A_2$ 只能是-

$\begin{matrix} + & + & + & +\dots & + & \Rightarrow - \end{matrix}$

$\begin{matrix} - & - & + & +\dots & + & \Rightarrow - \end{matrix}$

$n-k$ 個  
example

Total example:  $n-k+2$ . If there is don't care,  $k \geq 1 \Rightarrow n-k+2 \leq n+1$

# 如果concept都沒有don 't care?



	$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	....	$A_n$
Concept:	+	+	+	+...	+

要學會這樣的concept，需要提供幾個example??

$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	....	$A_n$	Class
+	+	+	+...	+	$\Rightarrow +$
-	+	+	+...	+	$\Rightarrow -$
+	-	+	+...	+	$\Rightarrow -$
+	+	-	+...	+	$\Rightarrow -$
$\vdots$					

1 example

n example

Total example:  $n+1$

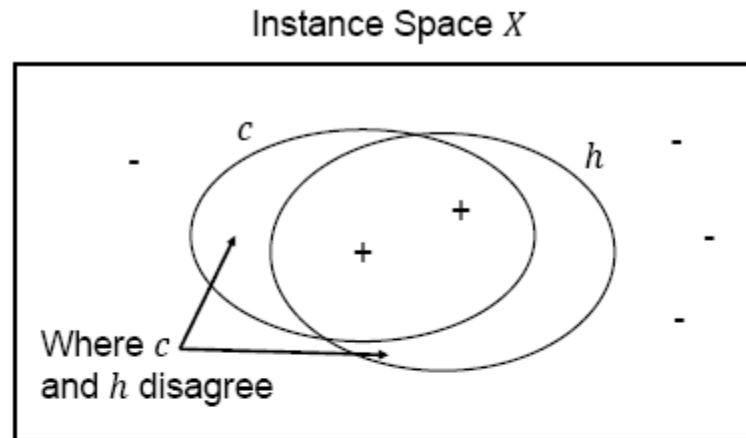
# Sample Complexity: Setting 3

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- **Given:**

- Set of instances  $X$ .
- Set of hypotheses  $H$ .
- Set of possible target concepts  $C$ .
- Training instances generated by a fixed, unknown probability distribution  $\mathbb{D}$  over  $X$ .
- Learner observes a sequence  $D$  of training examples of form  $\langle x, c(x) \rangle$ , for some target concept  $c \in C$ .
  - Instances  $x$  are drawn from distribution  $\mathbb{D}$ .
  - Teacher provides target value  $c(x)$  for each  $x$ .
- Learner must output a hypothesis  $h$  estimating  $c$ 
  - $h$  is evaluated by its performance on subsequent instances drawn according to  $\mathbb{D}$
- **Note:** randomly drawn instances, noise-free classifications.

# True Error of a Hypothesis



## Definition

The **true error** (denoted  $error_{\mathbb{D}}(h)$ ) of hypothesis  $h$  with respect to target concept  $c$  and distribution  $\mathbb{D}$  is the probability that  $h$  misclassifies an instance drawn at random according to  $\mathbb{D}$ .

$$error_{\mathbb{D}}(h) \equiv \Pr_{x \in \mathbb{D}} (c(x) \neq h(x))$$

# Two Notations of Error

多常錯? => 100個training example 錯2個 => 2%

- **Training error**, denoted  $\text{error}_D(h)$ , of hypothesis  $h$  with respect to  $c$ :  
How often  $h(x) \neq c(x)$  over training instances.
- **True error**, denoted  $\text{error}_{\mathbb{D}}(h)$ , of hypothesis  $h$  with respect to  $c$ :  
How often  $h(x) \neq c(x)$  over future random instances.
- Our concerns:  
Training error: 2% => True error不高於3%的機率是多少?
  - Can we bound the **true** error of  $h$  given its **training** error?
  - First consider when **training** error of  $h$  is zero (i.e.,  $h \in VS_{H,D}$ )

# PAC Learning

- Consider a class  $C$  of possible target concepts defined over a set of instances  $X$  of length  $n$ , and a learner  $L$  using hypothesis space  $H$ .
- We desire that the learner **probably** learns a hypothesis that is **approximately correct**.

## Definition

$C$  is **PAC-learnable** by  $L$  using  $H$  if **for all**  $c \in C$ , distributions  $\mathbb{D}$  over  $X$ ,  $\epsilon$  such that  $0 < \epsilon < 1/2$ , and  $\delta$  such that  $0 < \delta < 1/2$ , learner  $L$  will with probability at least  $(1 - \delta)$  output a hypothesis  $h \in H$  such that  $\text{error}_{\mathbb{D}}(h) \leq \epsilon$ , in time that is polynomial in  $1/\epsilon$ ,  $1/\delta$ ,  $n$  and  $\text{size}(c)$ .

- To prove any concept is PAC-learnable or not, we need to derive the sample complexity needed for setting 3.

如果一個concept是PAC-learnable，代表此concept沒有很難，可以在夠短的時間內，夠高的機率輸出一個夠準確的hypothesis

## Q2:

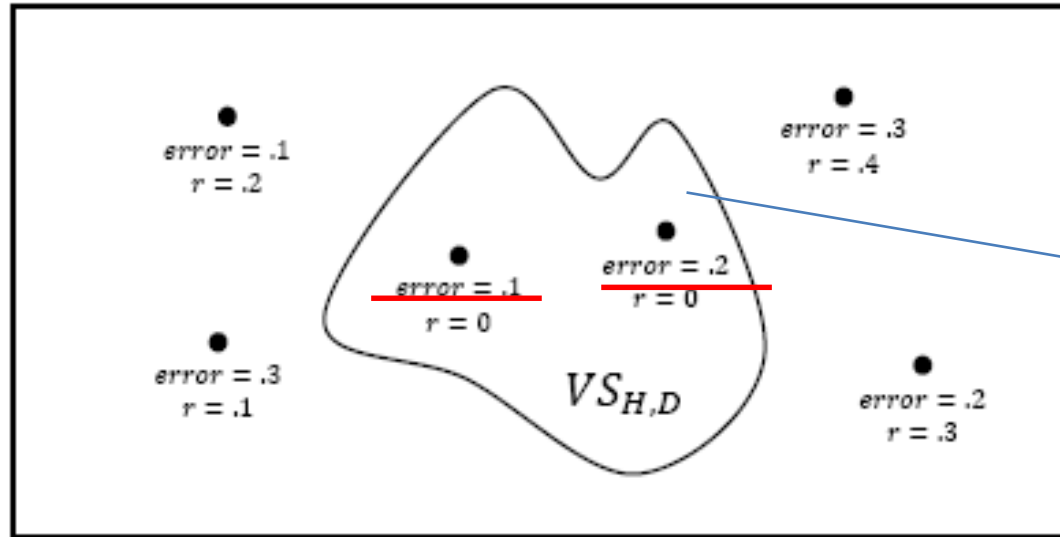
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- Which of the following statements is true about PAC learning?
- (A) The parameters  $\varepsilon$  should be less than  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- (B) The algorithm is expected to output a hypothesis that is approximately correct.
- (C) If the concept is PAC learnable, we can get an accurate hypothesis with a high enough probability in a short time.
- (D) All of the above.

# Exhausting the Version Space

Hypothesis Space  $H$



\*\*

$r$ : training error  
error: true error

This version space is **0.3-exhausted**.

( $r$  is training error,  $error$  is true error)

## Definition

The version space  $VS_{H,D}$  is  $\epsilon$ -**exhausted** with respect to  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathbb{D}$ , if every hypothesis  $h$  in  $VS_{H,D}$  has error less than  $\epsilon$  with respect to  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathbb{D}$ .

$$(\forall h \in VS_{H,D}) \text{error}_{\mathbb{D}}(h) < \epsilon$$

所有



# Question

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- Given training error is 0 (i.e. hypothesis is in version space), what is the true error?
- $\Rightarrow$  How many examples can make version space  $\varepsilon$ -exhausted?

# Probability of Exhausting the Version Space



- How many examples  $\epsilon$ -exhaust the VS?

## Theorem (Haussler, 1988)

If  $H$  is finite, and  $D$  is a sequence of  $m \geq 1$  independent random examples (from distribution  $\mathbb{D}$ ) of some target concept  $c$ , then for any  $0 \leq \epsilon \leq 1$ , the probability that  $VS_{H,D}$  is not  $\epsilon$ -exhausted is less than or equal to

$$|H|e^{-\epsilon m}.$$

- The above theorem bounds the probability that any **consistent** learner will output a hypothesis  $h$  with  $\text{error}_{\mathbb{D}}(h) \geq \epsilon$ .
- If we want to this probability to be below  $\delta$

$$|H|e^{-\epsilon m} \leq \delta \quad \xRightarrow{\log} \quad m \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon} (\ln |H| + \ln(1/\delta))$$

1- $\delta$ 的機率輸出夠準確的 hypothesis 所需要的 example

充分但不必要條件!!

## Q3:

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- Which of the following statements is true about the probability of the version space is not  $\varepsilon$ -exhausted?
- (A) By this theorem , we can know the most number of example drawn from distribution, that we can get a hypothesis such that the true error is large than or equal to  $\varepsilon$ .
- (B) According to this, we can infer that if, Pr will be large than or equal to  $|H|e^{-\varepsilon m}$ .
- (C) m is the symbol of the number of the examples.
- (D) The theorem is still true, if H is infinite.

# Proof of $\epsilon$ -exhausting (1/2)

- What is the probability that version space is not  $\epsilon$ -exhausted if  $m$  examples are given?

**Proof:**  $\epsilon$ -exhausting the version space.

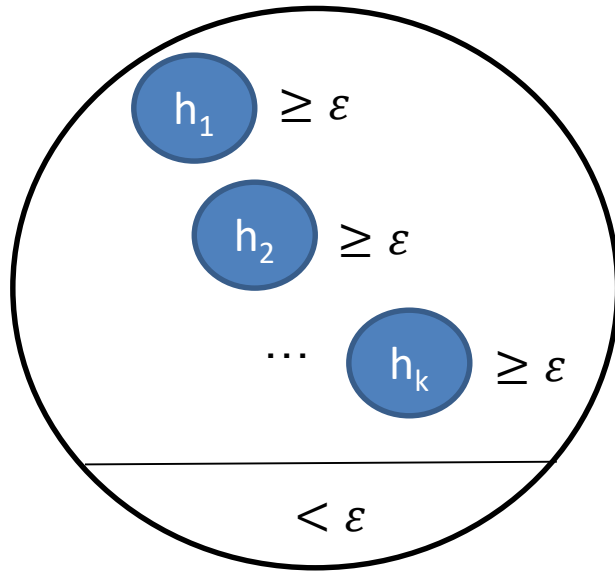
- Let  $h_1, \dots, h_k$  be all hypotheses in  $H$  with true errors greater than  $\epsilon$  with respect to  $c$ .
- Fail to  $\epsilon$ -exhausting the VS iff at least one of these hypotheses consistent with all  $m$  examples.
- Such prob. for a single hypothesis and a single random example is  $(1 - \epsilon)$ ; or  $(1 - \epsilon)^m$  for all  $m$  examples.
- The prob. that fail to  $\epsilon$ -exhausting is at most  $k(1 - \epsilon)^m$ .

For  $k$  個 hypothesis

$$k(1 - \epsilon)^m \leq |H|(1 - \epsilon)^m \leq |H|e^{-\epsilon m}$$



# Proof of $\varepsilon$ -exhausting (2/2)



$$\forall h \quad error_{ID}(h_i) \geq \varepsilon$$

$h(x_1) : +$   
 $c(x_1) : +$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} h(x_1) : + \\ c(x_1) : + \end{array} \right\}$ 
 h has to consistent with c  
 Otherwise, h is not in the version space.  
 The probability of h consistent with c  
 based on  $x_1$  is  $1 - \varepsilon$

$h(x_2) : -$   
 $c(x_2) : -$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} h(x_2) : - \\ c(x_2) : - \end{array} \right\}$ 
 The probability of h consistent with c  
 based on  $x_2$  is  $1 - \varepsilon$

$\vdots$  m examples

After asking m times, the probability of h consistent with c is  $(1 - \varepsilon)^m$

# Learning Conjunctions of Boolean Literals



- Recall that  $m \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon}(\ln |H| + \ln(1/\delta))$  examples are sufficient to assure with probability at least  $(1 - \delta)$  that every  $h$  in  $VS_{H,D}$  satisfies  $error_{\mathbb{D}}(h) \leq \epsilon$ .
  - Suppose  $H$  contains conjunctions of constraints on up to  $n$  boolean attributes.
    - $|H| = 3^n$ . Every attribute can be (+, -, don't care)
    - $m \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon}(n \ln 3 + \ln(1/\delta))$
    - Boolean conjunctions is PAC-learnable!
- Polynomial in  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .  
Polynomial in  $\frac{1}{\delta}$ .  
Polynomial in  $n$

# EnjoySport Revisit

- Inn *EnjoySport*, if we consider only conjunctions,  $|H| = 973$ .

$$m \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon} (\ln 973 + \ln(1/\delta))$$

- If want to assure that with probability **95%**, *VS* contains only hypotheses with  $\text{error}_{\mathbb{D}}(h) \leq 0.1$ , then it is sufficient to have  $m$  examples, where

$$m \geq \frac{1}{0.1} \left( \ln 973 + \ln \frac{1}{0.05} \right)$$

$m \geq 98.8 \Rightarrow m=99$  就充分  
 $\Rightarrow$  給99個example，就有95%以上的機率可以輸出一個true error<10%的hypothesis 23

# Agnostic Learning

## (Learning Inconsistent Hypotheses)

- The equation  $m \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon}(\ln |H| + \ln(1/\delta))$  tells us how many training examples suffice to ensure that every hypotheses in  $H$  having zero training error will have true error of at most  $\epsilon$ .

$C \neq H$

- However, if  $c \notin H$ , zero training error may not be achievable.
- We desire to know how many examples suffice to ensure  $error_{\mathbb{D}}(h) > error_D(h) + \epsilon$ .

- Hoeffding bounds:**  $|\bar{X} - \mu|$

$$\Pr(error_{\mathbb{D}}(h) > error_D(h) + \epsilon) \leq e^{-2m\epsilon^2}$$

- Sample complexity in this case:

$$\Pr((\exists h \in H) error_{\mathbb{D}}(h) > error_D(h) + \epsilon) \leq \underbrace{|H|}_{H\text{個}} e^{-2m\epsilon^2} \leq \delta$$

$$m \geq \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\epsilon^2}}_{H\text{個}} (\ln |H| + \ln(1/\delta))$$



# Infinite Hypothesis Space

- The above sample complexity has two drawbacks:
  - ① Weak bounds.
  - ②  $H$  has to be finite.
- We need another measure of the complexity of  $H$ .

## Definition

A **dichotomy** of a set  $S$  is a partition of  $S$  into two disjoint subsets.

## Definition

A set of instances  $S$  is **shattered** by hypothesis space  $H$  iff for every dichotomy of  $S$  there exists some hypothesis in  $H$  consistent with this dichotomy.

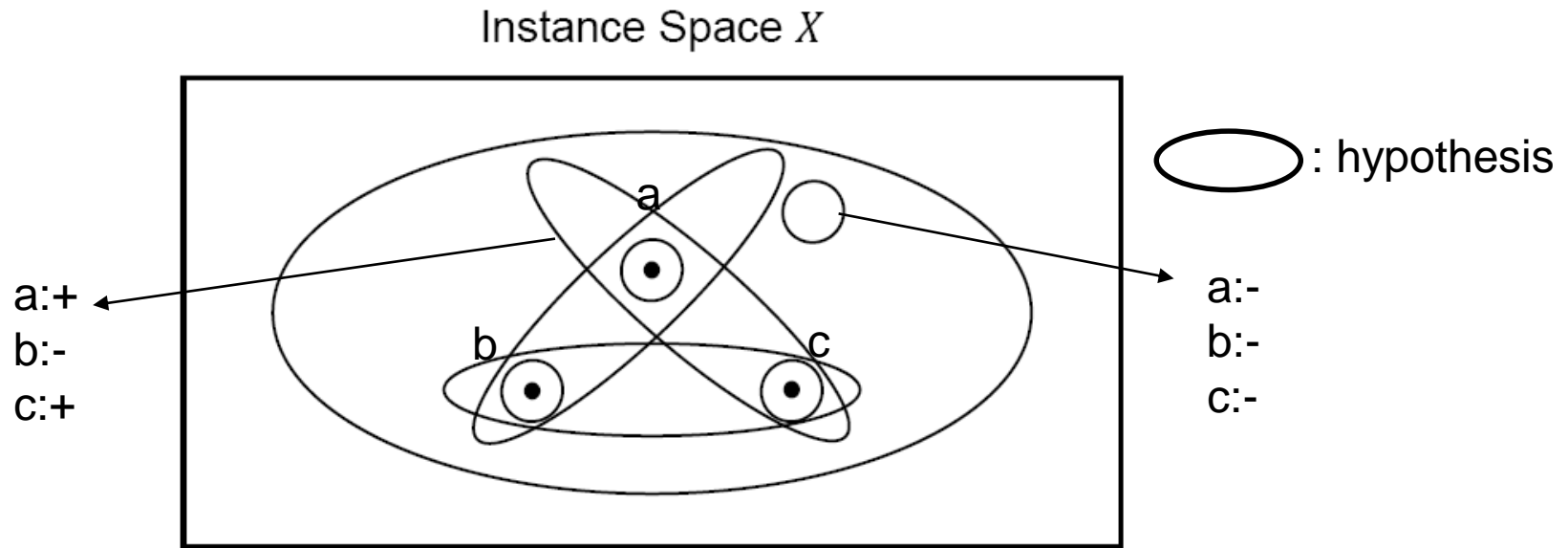
$$S = \{a, b, c\} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{matrix} \{a\} \\ \{b, c\} \end{matrix} \right\} h \in H \quad \{a\}:+ \quad \{b, c\}:-$$

# Shattering a Set of Instances (1/2)

- $S$  is a subset of instances,  $S \subseteq X$ ;  $2^{|S|}$  distinct dichotomies in total.
- Each  $h \in H$  imposes a dichotomy on  $S$ :

$$\{x \in S | h(x) = 0\} \text{ and } \{x \in S | h(x) = 1\}$$

- $H$  shatters  $S$  iff every dichotomy of  $S$  is represented by some  $h \in H$ .



a, b, c instances have 8 dichotomies.

=> 如果8個dichotomies對應的h都在H裡  
=> S is shattered by H

# Shattering a Set of Instances (2/2)

- $H$  shatter  $S \Rightarrow |H| \geq 2^{|S|}$

a	b	c	
+	+	+	$h_1$
+	+	-	$h_2$
...			...
-	-	-	$h_8$

} 8個h  
均屬於H

# The Vapnik-Chervonenkis (VC) Dimension



- The ability to shatter a set of instances is closely related to the **inductive bias** of the hypothesis space.
- An **unbiased** hypothesis space can represent every possible concept (dichotomy) over  $X$ : **An unbiased hypothesis space shatters  $X$ .**
- What if  $H$  cannot shatter  $X$ , but can shatter a subset  $S$ ?
- Intuitively, the larger  $S$  is, the more expressive  $H$  is.

## Definition

The **Vapnik-Chervonenkis dimension**,  $VC(H)$ , of hypothesis space  $H$  is the size of the largest finite subset of instance space  $X$  shattered by  $H$ . If arbitrarily large finite sets of  $X$  can be shattered by  $H$ , then  $VC(H) \equiv \infty$ .

- Note that for any finite  $H$ ,  $VC(H) \leq \log_2 |H|$ .  $\Rightarrow |H| \geq 2^{|S|} \Rightarrow |H| \geq 2^{VC(H)}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  雙邊取log



# Why VC Dimension?

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- Make VC dimension to define sample complexity.
- Since  $m \geq \log|H|$  is too weak, we will use VC Dimension to bound.

## Q4:

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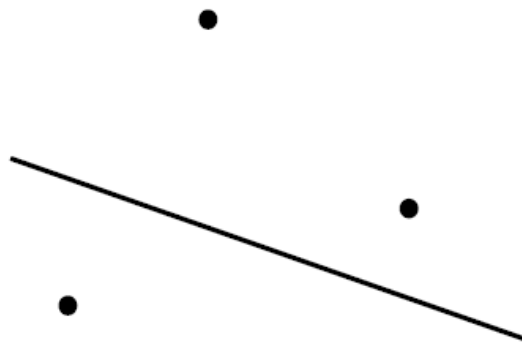
- Which of the following statements is the application of VC dimension?
- (A) The complexity of the model.
- (B) The accuracy of the prediction.
- (C) The speed of the computation.
- (D) The upper bound of the training examples.

# VC Dimension (1/3)

- Instances are real numbers:  $X = \mathbb{R}$
- Hypotheses are real intervals:  $h_{ab} = a < x < b$ ;  $H = \{\forall a, b \ h_{ab}\}$
- Consider  $S = \{3.1, 5.7\}$ .  $H$  shatters  $S$ , why?
- For any set of 3 instances:  $S = \{x, y, z\}$ , where  $x < y < z$ . There is no way for  $H$  to represent this dichotomy:  $\{x, z\}$  and  $\{y\}$ .

$$VC(H) = 2$$

- For 2D points ( $X$ ) and line separations ( $H$ ),  $VC(H) = 3$ .



(a)

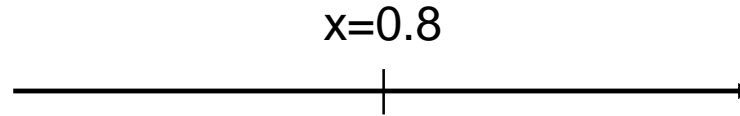


(b)

# Example: 1 Instance on a Line

$$X = \mathbb{R}$$

$$|H| = \infty$$



$\{x\} \Rightarrow$  Dichotomy:  $\emptyset, \{x\}$   
 $\{x\}, \emptyset$

Is there  $h$  can make  $\emptyset: +, \{x\}: -$  ?  $\Rightarrow$  don't include  $x$ :  $h_{10,20}$

Is there  $h$  can make  $\{x\}: +, \emptyset: -$  ?  $\Rightarrow$  include  $x$ :  $h_{0,1}$

$h_{10,20}$  and  $h_{0,1}$  are belong to  $H \Rightarrow H$  shatter  $\{x\}$

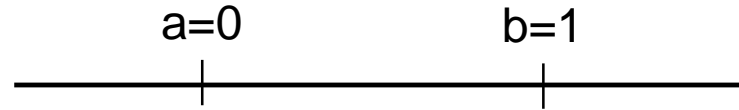
$VC(H) = ?$        $VC(H) \geq 1$



# Example: 2 Instances on a Line

$$X = \mathbb{R}$$

$$|H| = \infty$$



Dichotomy: 4  $\Rightarrow$

+	+
+	-
-	+
-	-

Is there  $h$  can get + + ?  $\Rightarrow$  Include a and b:  $h_{5,5}$

Is there  $h$  can get + - ?  $\Rightarrow$  Include a and not include b:  $h_{-5,0.5}$

Is there  $h$  can get - + ?  $\Rightarrow$  not include a and include b:  $h_{0.5,5}$

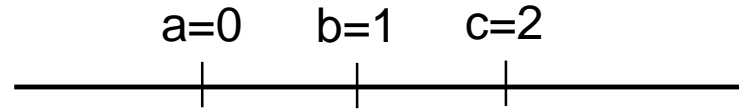
Is there  $h$  can get - - ?  $\Rightarrow$  not include a and b:  $h_{20,40}$

All  $h$  are belong to  $H \Rightarrow H$  shatter  $\{a,b\}$

$VC(H)=?$   $VC(H) \geq 2$

# Example: 3 Instances on a Line

$$X = \mathbb{R}$$
$$|H| = \infty$$



Dichotomy: 8

Is there  $h$  can get + - + ?  $\Rightarrow$  Include  $a$ ,  $c$  and not include  $b$ :??

$\Rightarrow$  We cannot get a “ $h$ ” to shatter **any** 3 instances in the line.

By definition of VC, we have to shatter “**every**” dichotomy

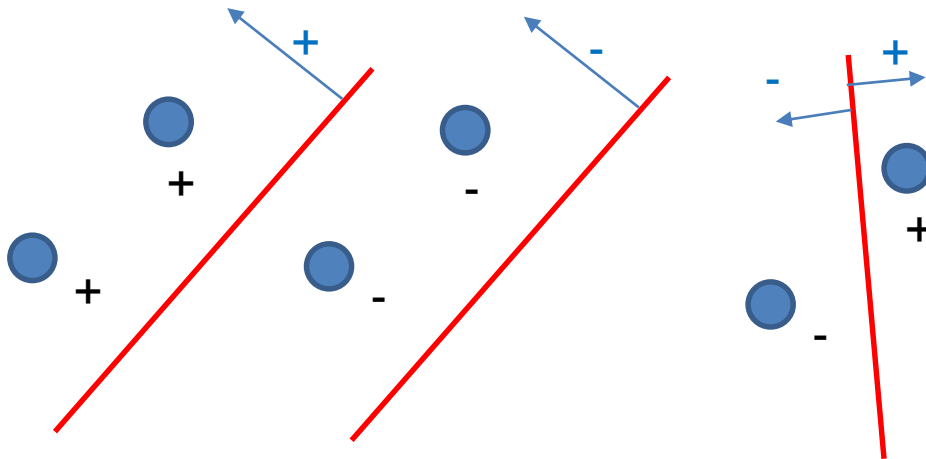
$$\Rightarrow VC(H) \neq 3$$

$$\Rightarrow VC(H) = 2$$

# Example: Linear Classifier with 2 Instances



$$X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \{(x, y) / x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$$
$$m(H) = \{(x, y) / ax + by + c \geq 0, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

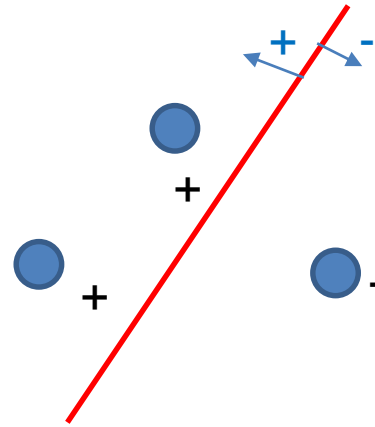
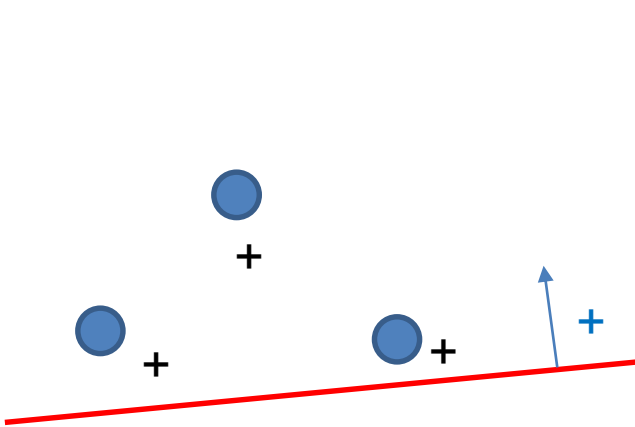


$$VC(H) = ?$$
$$\Rightarrow VC(H) \geq 2$$

# Example: Linear Classifier with 3 Instances



$$X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \{(x, y) / x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$$
$$m(H) = \{(x, y) / ax + by + c \geq 0, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$$



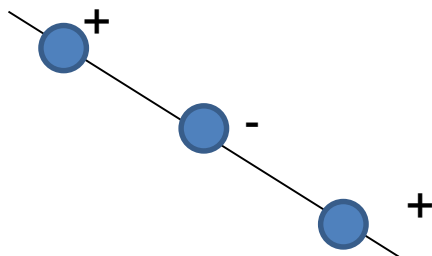
$$VC(H) = ?$$
$$\Rightarrow VC(H) \geq 3$$

# Example: Linear Classifier with 3 Instances



$$X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \{(x,y) | x,y \in \mathbb{R}\}$$
$$m(H) = \{(x,y) | ax+by+c \geq 0, a,b,c \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

If 3 instances are on a line??



We cannot find a linear classifier to shatter 3 instances on a line.

So  $VC(H) \geq 2$  ??

## Definition

The **Vapnik-Chervonenkis dimension**,  $VC(H)$ , of hypothesis space  $H$  is the size of the largest finite subset of instance space  $X$  shattered by  $H$ . If arbitrarily large finite sets of  $X$  can be shattered by  $H$ , then  $VC(H) \equiv \infty$ .

So  $VC(H) = 3$

# Q5:

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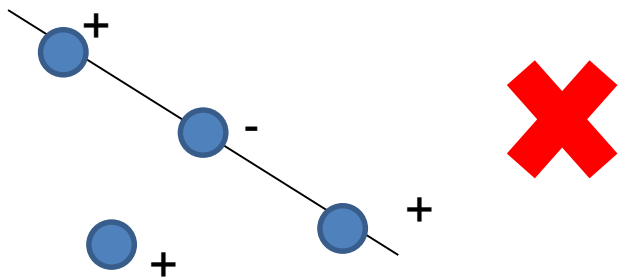
- Consider the case on the 2D plane.  $VC(H)=?$
- (A) 2
- (B) 3
- (C) 4
- (D) 8

# Example: Linear Classifier with 4 Instances

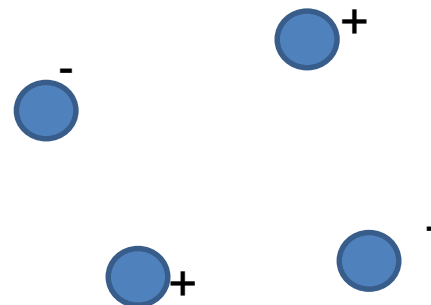


$$X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \{(x, y) / x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$$
$$m(H) = \{(x, y) / ax + by + c \geq 0, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Case 1: Any 3 instances are on a line.



Case 2: Any 3 instances are not on a line.



Dichotomy: 16

$\Rightarrow$  There is one dichotomy cannot be shattered.

$\Rightarrow$  XOR problem.

$VC(H) = ?$

$\Rightarrow VC(H) \neq 4$

$\Rightarrow VC(H) = 3$

# Linear Classifier in n Dimension

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- Linear classifier in n dimension  $\Rightarrow$  In general, the VC is  $n+1$



# VC Dimension and Sample Complexity



- How many randomly drawn examples suffice to  $\epsilon$ -exhaust  $VS_{H,D}$  with probability at least  $(1 - \delta)$ ? [Blumer *et al.*, 1989]

充分但不必要條件!!

## Upper bound on sample complexity

$$m \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left( 4 \log_2 \frac{2}{\delta} + 8 \underline{VC(H)} \log_2 \frac{13}{\epsilon} \right)$$

$$m \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon} (\ln |H| + \ln(1/\delta))$$

- Similarly,  $m$  grows with  $\log(1/\delta)$ .
- Now,  $m$  grows with  $(1/\epsilon) \log(1/\epsilon)$  rather than linear.
- Most importantly,  $\ln |H|$  is replaced by  $VC(H)$ . Recall that  $VC(H) \leq \log_2 |H|$ .

# VC Dimension and Sample Complexity



- How about lower bound? [Ehrenfeucht *et al.*, 1989]

## Lower bound on sample complexity

Consider any concept  $C$  where  $VC(C) \geq 2$ , any learner  $L$ , any  $0 < \epsilon < \frac{1}{8}$ , and  $0 < \delta < \frac{1}{100}$ . There exists a distribution  $\mathbb{D}$  and target concept in  $C$  such that if  $L$  observes fewer examples than

Upper bound 正比於  $VC(C)$   
Lower bound 也正比於  $VC(C)$

$$\max \left\{ \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log_2(1/\delta), \frac{VC(C) - 1}{32\epsilon} \right\}$$

then with prob. at least  $\delta$ ,  $L$  outputs a hypothesis  $h$  having  $error_{\mathbb{D}}(h) > \epsilon$ .

- Given the lower bound, we see that the upper bound in the previous slide is fairly tight.



# Mistake Bounds

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- So far, we discuss “How many examples you need to learn an accurate concept?”
- Now, we want to change the scenario.
- I give you an example without answer.
- Learner predict the result is positive or negative.
- And I tell you the answer.
- So under this scenario, **how many errors will you encounter?**

# Mistake Bound for Find-S

- Consider FIND-S when  $H$  are conjunctions of  $n$  boolean literals  $\ell_1, \dots, \ell_n$ .

## FIND-S

- Initialize  $h$  to the most specific hypothesis  
 $\emptyset = \ell_1 \wedge \neg \ell_1 \wedge \ell_2 \wedge \neg \ell_2 \dots \ell_n \wedge \neg \ell_n$
  - For each positive training instance  $x$ 
    - Remove from  $h$  any literal that is not satisfied by  $x$
  - Output hypothesis  $h$ .
- How many mistakes before converging to correct  $h$ ?
    - Provided  $c \in H$ , FIND-S never misclassifies negative examples.
    - The first positive example reduce the  $2n$  literals to  $n$ .
    - Then every misclassified positive examples removes at least one literal.
    - At most  $(n + 1)$  mistakes.

# FIND-S Example

$$\emptyset = l_1 \wedge \neg l_1 \wedge l_2 \wedge \neg l_2 \dots l_n \wedge \neg l_n$$

Example  $x_1$ :

$L_1$	$L_2$	$L_3$	....	Class
+	-	+	...	+

$$h_1 = l_1 \wedge \neg l_1 \wedge l_2 \wedge \neg l_2 \neg l_3 l_n \wedge \neg l_n$$

$h_1$  becomes  $x_1$

Example  $x_2$ :

$L_1$	$L_2$	$L_3$	....	Class
-	-	+	...	+

$$h_2 = \neg l_1 \wedge \neg l_1 \wedge l_2 \wedge \neg l_2 \neg l_3 l_n \wedge \neg l_n$$

Original hypothesis  $2n \rightarrow$  1<sup>st</sup> mistake:  $n \rightarrow$  2<sup>nd</sup> mistake:  $-1 \rightarrow$  ...  
 Most:  $n$  times 46

# Q6



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- Which of the following statement is true about the FIND-S algorithm for mistake bound?
  - (A) Initially, we set  $h$  to the most general hypothesis.
  - (B) If the concept  $c$  is in hypothesis space, the FIND-S probably misclassifies negative examples.
  - (C) After first iteration, hypothesis space will become half of the original one.
  - (D) There will be at most  $n$  mistake before finding the correct  $h$ .

# Mistake Bound for Halving Algorithm



- Consider the **HALVING Algorithm**:
  - Learn concept with version space such as the CANDIDATE-ELIMINATION algorithm
  - Classify new instances by majority vote of version space members

70:+  
30:-    =>+    => Remove 30

- How many mistakes before converging to correct  $h$ ?
  - Worst case:  $\lfloor \log_2 |H| \rfloor$ , why?
  - Best case: 0, why?

Original hypothesis space  $|H| \rightarrow$  1<sup>st</sup> mistake:  $|H|/2 \rightarrow$  2<sup>nd</sup> mistake:  $|H|/4$   
 $\rightarrow \dots \rightarrow$  Most:  $\lfloor \log_2 |H| \rfloor$



# Optimal Mistake Bound

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- We define the mistake bound based on a specific algorithm.
- What is about the general case?



# Optimal Mistake Bound

- Interested in the **optimal mistake bound** for an arbitrary concept class  $C$ , assuming  $H = C$ .
- Define  $M_A(c)$  as the maximum over all possible sequence of training examples of the number of mistakes made by algorithm  $A$  and the target concept  $c$ .
- For any nonempty concept class  $C$ , define  $M_A(C) = \max_{c \in C} M_A(c)$ .  
小  $c$  屬於大  $C$  裡面最難最難的那一個

## Definition

Let  $C$  be an arbitrary nonempty concept class. The **optimal mistake bound** for  $C$ , denoted  $Opt(C)$ , is the minimum over all possible learning algorithms  $A$  of  $M_A(C)$ .

$$\min_A: \text{最聰明的那一個演算法}$$
$$Opt(C) = \min_A M_A(C)$$

最聰明的那一個演算法在最困難的 concept，  
concept class 裡面最難的那個 concept 裡面最糟的 sequence，所犯的錯誤

# Bounds for Optimal Mistake Bound

- $VC(C) \leq Opt(C) \leq \log_2 |C|$  (Littlestone, 1987)

Proof.

Right:  $Opt(C) \leq M_{\text{HALVING}}(C) \leq \log_2 |C|$

Left (Adversarial):

- ① Let  $S = \{x_1, \dots, x_{VC(C)}\} \subseteq X$  be a shattered set.
- ② Suppose the environment reveals  $x_i \in S$ , and the algorithm outputs  $\hat{y}_i$ .
- ③ The environment selects a new target concept  $c \in C$  such that  $c(x_i) = y_i \neq \hat{y}_i$ . 要唱反調，跟你預測的答案不同
- ④ Since  $S$  is shattered by  $C$ , there always exists such  $c$ , and no way the algorithm can tell the difference.
- ⑤ Therefore, the algorithm makes at least  $VC(C)$  mistakes.





# Example

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Answer: 1234

Guess: 1567  $\Rightarrow$  1A

Guess: 1234  $\Rightarrow$  I don't want you to win so fast. I change the answer to 8097

Another guess

:

How many times can you change the answer?

# Q7

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- Which of the following statements is correct?
- (A) The algorithm makes at least  $VC(C)$  (assuming  $C=H$ ).
- (B)  $MA(C)$  means the hardest concept to learn in  $C$ .
- (C) Worst case for the Halving algorithm is  $\log_2 |H|$ , which is the upper bound of the mistakes.
- (D) All of the above.

# Weighted-Majority Algorithm

## WEIGHTED-MAJORITY

$a_i$ : prediction algorithms;  $w_i$ : weights, initialized to all 1;  $0 \leq \beta < 1$

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1  for each training example  $\langle x, c(x) \rangle$ 
2       $q_0 = 0$ ;  $q_1 = 0$ 
3      for each algorithm  $a_i$ 
4          if  $a_i(x) == 0$  then  $q_0 = q_0 + w_i$ 
5          if  $a_i(x) == 1$  then  $q_1 = q_1 + w_i$ 
6      if  $q_0 > q_1$  then predict  $\hat{c}(x) = 0$ 
7      if  $q_0 < q_1$  then predict  $\hat{c}(x) = 1$ 
8      if  $q_0 == q_1$  then predict  $\hat{c}(x) = 0$  or 1 at random
9      for each algorithm  $a_i$ 
10         each  $a_i(x) \neq c(x)$  then  $w_i = \beta w_i$ .     $\beta$  is usually set to be 0.5
```

- Note that  $\beta$  is 0, WEIGHTED-MAJORITY reduces to HALVING.

# Mistake Bound for Weighted-Majority

- For any sequence of training examples  $D$ , let  $A$  be any set of  $n$  prediction algorithms, and let  $k$  be the minimum number of mistakes made by any algorithm in  $A$  over  $D$ . The number of mistakes over  $D$  made by WEIGHTED-MAJORITY with  $\beta = 1/2$  is at most

$$2.4(k + \log_2 n).$$

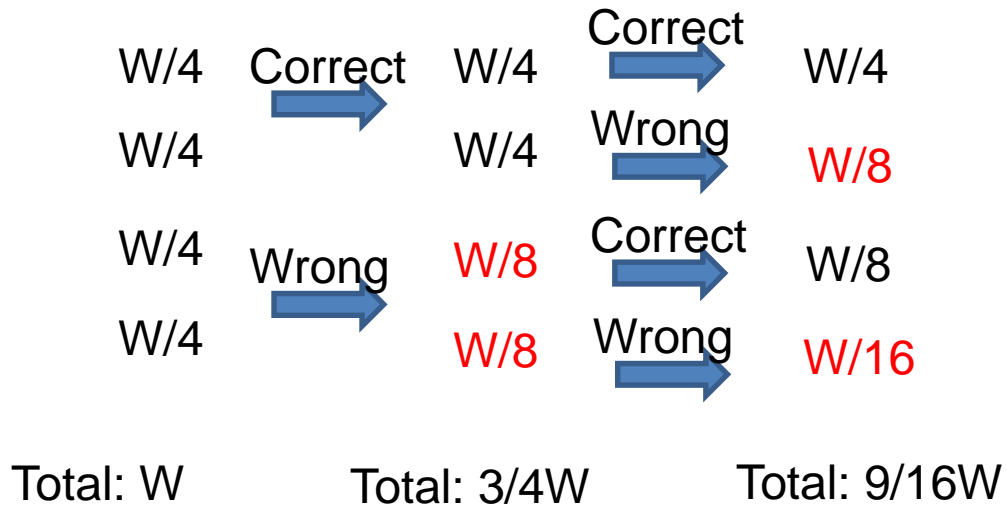
## Proof.

- Let  $a_j$  be the best algorithm which yields  $k$ ; its final weight  $w_j = \frac{1}{2^k}$ .
- Consider the sum  $W = \sum_i w_i$ .  $W$  initially  $n$ .  $1 \Rightarrow 1/2 \Rightarrow 1/4 \Rightarrow k \text{ times} \Rightarrow 1/2^k$
- Each mistake reduces  $W$  to at most  $\frac{3}{4}W$ . 聽一半的人，這一半的人犯錯，weight砍半，所以砍掉1/4
- Let  $M$  be the total number of mistakes of WEIGHTED-MAJORITY.
- The final  $W$  is at most  $n \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^M$ . So  $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \leq n \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^M$



$$W \rightarrow \frac{3}{4}W \rightarrow \frac{9}{16}W$$

$$n \rightarrow \frac{3}{4}n \rightarrow \frac{9}{16}n \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^M$$



# Q8

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- Consider the Weighted-Majority algorithm with  $\beta = 1/2$ .

What is the total number's upper bound of the mistake?  
(where  $n$  is the number of total algorithms, and  $K$  is the minimum number of mistakes.)

- (A)  $2.4K$
- (B)  $2.4K + 2.4\ln(n)$
- (C)  $2.4[K + \log(n)]$
- (D)  $2.4K + 2.4\log_2(n)$



# Summary

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- **PAC** considers algorithms that learn target concept using training examples randomly drawn from an unknown but fixed distribution.
- PAC: with high probability  $(1 - \delta)$ , the learner outputs a hypothesis that is approximately correct (within error  $\epsilon$ ) within computational time polynomial in  $1/\delta$ ,  $1/\epsilon$ , the size of instances, and the size of target concept.
- For **finite** hypothesis spaces, sample complexity can be derived for a consistent and agnostic learners, respectively.
- **VC dimension** measures the expressiveness of a hypothesis space, and an alternative (usually tighter, and for **infinite** hypothesis space) upper bound is derived using VC-dimension.
- **Optimal mistake** is bounded by VC-dimension and HALVING.
- The number of mistakes of WEIGHTED-MAJORITY is bounded by its **best predictor**.